

Louisiana Law Review

Volume 16 | Number 1
December 1955

A BIBLIOGRAPHY ON FOREIGN AND COMPARATIVE LAW. BOOKS AND ARTICLES IN ENGLISH, by Charles Szladits. The Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law, Columbia University, 1955. Pp. xx, 508.
%5bDistributed by Oceana Publications, New York%5d. \$15.00.

Robert A. Pascal

Repository Citation

Robert A. Pascal, *A BIBLIOGRAPHY ON FOREIGN AND COMPARATIVE LAW. BOOKS AND ARTICLES IN ENGLISH*, by Charles Szladits. *The Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law, Columbia University*, 1955. Pp. xx, 508. %5bDistributed by Oceana Publications, New York%5d. \$15.00., 16 La. L. Rev. (1955)
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.law.lsu.edu/lalrev/vol16/iss1/30>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Law Reviews and Journals at LSU Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Louisiana Law Review by an authorized editor of LSU Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact kreed25@lsu.edu.

matter of the course. The cases *illustrate* the text rather than set the stage for classroom give-and-take. The text is the heart of the plan for instruction.

The cases are not designed for the intellectual exertion of comparison between cases nor for the task of careful factual analysis in the light of the opinions. The main emphasis in the cases is upon the opinions themselves, *i.e.*, upon the judicially written texts. Above each case selection is printed a word or a phrase designed to identify the material "covered." The heading is a kind of brain cushion should students find case reading too tough. In one instance the case printed is a civil accident insurance case, an essay used to give light on the distinction between intentional and unintentional acts.¹

What I have said, of course, is simply that I would not like to keep my course in criminal law within the boundaries of Professor Snyder's terminological reservation. Assuming, however, I had to present the subject that way, I would not like to use a text with only a small number of cases inserted like the photographs of a geography book. I am sure that other teachers with other tastes can use the book splendidly.

*Monrad G. Paulsen**

A BIBLIOGRAPHY ON FOREIGN AND COMPARATIVE LAW. BOOKS AND ARTICLES IN ENGLISH, by Charles Szladits. The Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law, Columbia University, 1955. Pp. xx, 508. [Distributed by Oceana Publications, New York]. \$15.00.

This impressively organized bibliography gives concrete evidence that much can be done in the study of foreign law and in comparative law without leaving the English language. Its appearance, therefore, should encourage those who, because of language handicaps, have assumed themselves to be cut off from the always rewarding and now increasingly important knowledge of other legal ideas and experiences. At the same time it is to be hoped that the necessity of knowing languages, if one is to

1. P. 218, *Cooper v. National Life Ins. Co.*, 212 Mo. App. 266, 253 S.W. 465 (1923).

*Professor of Law, University of Minnesota.

do serious work in foreign and comparative law, will not be minimized.

Professor Szladits indicates that the bibliography is based on a card index compiled by him to facilitate the teaching of foreign and comparative law at the Parker School of Columbia University and that it consists mostly of items available in the Columbia Law Library. Thus there is no guarantee of completeness, though it would be astonishing if Professor Szladits had overlooked anything of major importance. In terms of coverage, the bibliography includes items on the laws of all countries outside the Anglo-American orbit, and also on those of jurisdictions within that orbit so far as they are derived from non-Anglo-American sources. Thus included among the laws indexed are those of Scotland, South Africa, Ceylon, Quebec, Louisiana, and Puerto Rico. Also included are Roman law, Canon law, and Hebrew law. Anglo-American law, and even comparisons of institutions of the several Anglo-American jurisdictions, have been excluded. In all there are 13,742 numbered entries, but of course this figure includes many repetitions of the same item under different headings. The material indexed is that published through April 1, 1953. Supplements are contemplated.

The organization of the bibliography is in terms of nine parts corresponding to general classifications of the material. Part One lists the general works on comparative law and those dealing with the subject, aim, and method of comparative law and its relation to other disciplines; comparative law periodicals and serial publications; bibliographies on comparative law; academies, congresses, and institutes of comparative law; works on comparative law and legal education and on the codification and unification of law; and dictionaries, encyclopedias, and formularies. Part Two includes references to general works on the theory, character, history, and sources of foreign law, both comparative and non-comparative. Parts Three through Ten classify the materials under the principal headings of Private [Substantive Civil] Law, Commercial Law, Labor Law, Procedure [in general], Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Public Law, and Private International Law. Thus the classifications correspond generally to those familiar in the Roman-Continental tradition, but each Part is so divided and subdivided that even one not accustomed to civilian classifications generally should not find it difficult to locate the subject in which he is interested

in the table of contents.¹ Understandably there is no word-type index, but there is an index by author and one by the system of law, both of which are extremely useful to a student of foreign and comparative law.

This excellent bibliography unfortunately does not indicate the publishers of books, periodicals, and pamphlets. This will annoy some users and, undoubtedly, the compiler himself, for no doubt he will be deluged with requests for this information. Of the same general character is the listing of some reprints of articles as separate pamphlets without an indication of the books or reviews in which these articles were published originally.² Many entries give this information, showing it was not Professor Szladits' intention to omit it, but the number of "pamphlet" entries lead the reviewer to suspect that many of these are in reality reprints not so labeled. If so, the index value of the bibliography is reduced, for many libraries list commemorative essays and similar collections as such without indexing the individual items contained in them, and review articles appearing in the older periodicals and in foreign reviews will not always be indexed in our legal periodical indices. But these are matters which can be corrected in a second edition and do not detract substantially from the merit of the work as a whole.

To Professor Szladits, indeed, must be expressed the gratitude of legal science and especially legal education in America. His is a work which remained undone until this time probably because no one of his capacity was willing to make the personal sacrifice required for its completion.

*Robert A. Pascal**

1. The one difficulty the reviewer had was in locating the references to trusts, which are under "equitable ownership," which in turn is listed under "real property."

2. For example, items 4837 and 4838 are to be found in the *Festschrift für Ernst Rabel*, but this is not indicated.

*Professor of Law, Louisiana State University.